

A Successful Experiment

By GORTON CARRUTH

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He put his paper aside abruptly, rose and walked down the leaf-strewn path to the other bench, where the girl was sitting.

"Would you like to try an experiment?" he asked quietly, standing with his hand behind her.

She looked at him for a moment unsmiling, her expression neither inviting nor repelling.

"Perhaps," she said at length.

He sank into the seat beside her. "It is something I have often wanted to try," he said slowly. "Here are we two, perfect strangers in a city of five millions, and never likely to see each other again after we leave this chance meeting place. We have sat here for half an hour, each pretending to read, or to watch the squirrels, or the falling leaves, or the misty golden sunshine out there on the field, but each examining and appraising the other when the other wasn't looking."

"Now, this is the experiment: We have each gained a strong first impression of the other. Let us, with absolute frankness, tell each other what those impressions are. Let us do what friends cannot do—speak without reservations, made for fear of hurting each other's feelings."

She sat without speaking for a moment after he had finished, gazing thoughtfully out at the warm expanse of autumn-tinted park.

"But why?" she asked at last. "I am not sure that Burns was right. Perhaps it is just as well that we can't see ourselves as others see us."

"That," he said, "makes it an experiment. It will be a new experience. I want to know exactly how I look in the eyes of a stranger, however much the knowledge may hurt. Have you ever felt that way?"

"Yes," she said. "I have. Everyone does, I think."

"Well, I'll tell you, if you will do as much for me."

Again she hesitated and sat silently watching a gray squirrel that untroubled by self-consciousness, was busy burying a nut.

"Well," she said finally, "you first."

"The fact that I came over here and proposed this experiment to you at all shows that I thought you a sensible girl," he began slowly. "You impressed me as being neither a prude nor a flirt. You are pretty—I don't need to tell you that—but it has not spoiled you. You are rather thoughtful and studious, and you have a genuine feeling for the beauties of nature—something which too many girls just pretend to have. You are not above, I believe, taking an interest in babies and embroidery, although you know what is going on about you in the world and read something besides the woman's page in the newspapers. You don't work for your living, and your home is one of the comfortable houses in the Seventies. You see a good deal of the society side of life, but you keep healthfully busy at serious things. You are probably a suffragist in a quiet way, and you are also interested in some form of social or philanthropic work, which you do not treat as an heroically assumed duty. And—"

He was interrupted by the girl's low laughter. "Why not say that I have all the good qualities, and be done with it?" she asked. "Your impression is certainly not very accurate. Let's see if I can do better."

"You, it seems to me, have many of the excellent qualities that you are attributing to me. You are nothing of a 'sport,' but are a rather serious-minded young man, somewhat too much given to introspection. You are not bad looking, and you impress me as having a good deal of common sense. You are about twenty-five, and you are one of our rising young professional men—an architect, perhaps, or an engineer of some sort. You read a good deal, and when it comes to newspapers, something besides the sporting pages. You are rather domestic by nature, and you have a sense of humor. You also live in one of the better homes in the Seventies or the Eighties, and you are a confirmed New Yorker. There, how is that for a snapshot portrait?"

He did not answer at once, and they both sat silently for a few minutes. Presently he said gloomily:

"My experiment has failed, I'm afraid."

"Of course," she assented gently. "It was bound to. It shows of how little worth a first impression is, anyway. You wondered if the defects that you see in yourself were apparent to others, and you are half disappointed that they are not, for you do not like the idea of wearing a mask. Isn't that it?"

"Yes."

"And yet you must have known, except in moments of self-deprecation that you make a favorable first impression; and I know that I do, conceded as that may sound."

"All right," he straightened up abruptly. "Then we come to the second part of this experiment. We will now tell just how badly each of us is mistaken."

"Well—" she hesitated. "We can try it, but that also is a pretty hard thing to do."

"Listen to me first," he answered, "while I tell you what a poor judge of character at first glance you are. I may have a sense of humor, but it

doesn't work very well. I am gloomy, pessimistic and am rapidly developing into a chronic grouch. I am not one of our rising young professional men; I am a clerk in a large mercantile house, and there hasn't been anything startling in my rise yet. I may have common sense, but it doesn't keep me from making a fool of myself about half the time. I may be domestic by nature, but that's all the good it does me. So far from living in a brownstone house in the Eighties am I that I live in a single room down in the Twenties. I come from Michigan and am a comparative stranger in New York. I read a good deal, it is true, and you are right about the sporting page, but I don't believe that I ever had an original idea in my life. And—well, I might go on at considerable length, but how do you like the retouched portrait, so far?"

The girl was laughing at him again. "I think the portrait none the worse," said she; "especially since you are clearly in a mood for self-disparagement. Let me alter your portrait of me a little. I hope that I am sensible. I'm not a flirt, but I'm not so sure that I am not conceited. I like babies and embroidery, but I'm not interested in charitable work and I do read the woman's pages in the newspapers. I don't live in a brownstone house in the Eighties, either, but have a room up in the One Hundred and Eighties. I earn my living by teaching a class of little Greek, Italian and Russian children down in an East Side school, and I don't move in any other society. I have a bad temper; I'm afraid my pupils suffer a good deal at times. No doubt, I am more studious than most girls but I like the movies and candy and all sorts of frivolous things very much. Now how do you like the retouching?"

"Well," he admitted gravely, "I rather think it improves the portrait; it makes it so much more human."

They fell silent again, watching the sunshine on the colored trees.

"You are quite right about one thing," said the girl presently. "I love the trees and the fields and the sky. I was brought up in the country, and I don't believe I could stand it here in these endless miles of brick and stone, if it were not for the park."

"I come here often myself," the man said. "Do you?"

"Every Sunday afternoon. I like this spot best of all; the view is so beautiful."

"So do I."

The sun had left the trees and they could see the lights of the city twinkling like brilliant stars.

"Do you know," said the man, rising, "I think my experiment is not going to be a failure, after all, though it has not resulted as I expected."

"Perhaps it won't be," answered the girl quietly.

There was a moment's pause. Then: "I will say only—good-night," he said. "Good-night," she answered.

He turned and walked along the darkening path. As he reached the bend he broke into a cheerful whistle. The girl, smiling, walked briskly away. She was wondering what she would wear next Sunday afternoon, and he was trying to decide if it would be wise to take a box of candy with him.

HOW PIONEERS MADE CHANGE

Silver Dollars Were Quartered and "Sharp Shins" Were Result—Pelts Once Currency.

We of today, with half-dollars, quarter-dollars, dimes, nickels and pennies, often find it difficult to "make change."

Still more difficult was it for the early settlers to do so, Martha G. Purcell writes in "Stories of Old Kentucky."

As the Indians used wampum, so the pioneers of Kentucky used the skins of wild animals as their first currency.

While immigrants continued to come to this region, Spanish silver dollars came gradually into circulation. Still there was no small change.

As "necessity is the mother of invention," our forefathers actually made change by cutting the dollar into four equal parts, each worth 25 cents.

These were again divided, each part worth 12½ cents, called bits. People sometimes became careless in the work of making change, and often cut the dollar into five "quarters" or into ten "eighths." On account of the wedge shape of these pieces of cut money, they were called "sharp shins."

If change was needed for a smaller sum than 12½ cents, merchants gave pins, needles, writing paper and such things.

This cut silver gradually found its way back to the mint for recoining, usually to the loss of the last owner.

As late as 1806, a business house in Philadelphia received 100 pounds of cut silver, brought on by a Kentucky merchant, which was sent on a way to the United States mint for recoinage.

The Christening.

"And what is the name of this child?" asked the minister ready for the ceremony.

"Well, you see, parson," said the plain-speaking father, "we haven't decided yet. Wife wants him named after her uncle and I want him named after mine. Just flip up a cent, parson, and see which it is to be—heads I win."

Seats Not Comfortable.

"I am afraid I will lose my business," remarked A. J. Merrill, manager of the Princess Theater at Evansville, the other day.

"And why?" wondered an incoherent listener, who was noting the full house.

"Well, you see the seats don't seem to be comfortable since the government put the tax on them."—Indianapolis News.

MAY ADOPT DECIMAL SYSTEM

England Seriously Considering Abandoning Its Antiquated Currency in Favor of Simplicity.

England may adopt the decimal system for its currency. The agitation for this reform appears to be gaining favor with the British people, and among the important agencies behind the movement is the Associated Chamber of Commerce of the United Kingdom. For generations schoolboys have been learning this: Four farthings make one penny, twelve pence make one shilling, twenty shillings make one pound, twenty-one shillings sterling make one guinea, twenty shillings sterling make one sovereign.

Then there were the symbols to learn—the capital "L" with a short line across the shank of the letter for the Latin "libra," or pound; the little "s" for shilling, or the Latin solidus; the little "d" for denarius, or penny, and the "qr" for "quadrans," or quarter of a penny, standing for farthing, though latterly "far" came to stand generally for farthing. All American schoolboys have studied the table of English money in that part of their arithmetic dealing with "reduction," which is "the changing of numbers, either simple or compound, from one denomination to another without altering their values." Many men will probably remember that as boys they worked and labored over two kinds of "reduction," which were called "reduction descending and reduction ascending."

The decimalizing of English money is, of course, in the line of simplification. Some of the financial powers and papers are urging that parliament take the matter under consideration, and it is likely to come up for official treatment and discussion at any time.

WOULD BRING BACK OLD COIN

Our Daddies Found Many Uses for Copper Two-cent Pieces, and Its Restoration Is Urged.

The American Newspaper Publishers' association has recommended the return to the two-cent piece. Do you remember the old two-cent coin, with the big figure "2" on it? It was decorated with a wreath and almost everything else that could be crowded onto it.

It was used principally for the children to play with. It was too big for the baby to swallow and large enough to be found when once it was lost. When the Sunday school kids read of the woman in the Bible who had lost a coin and searched the house until she found it, they immediately associated it with the two-cent piece and wondered why there should be any trouble about its recovery.

But it was good old family coin, nevertheless, and would buy two pieces of licorice or one all-day sucker. It was not without its advantages, either, for the Sunday collection. It looked big, anyway, and made a very respectable noise when it was tossed into the plate on top of a pile of other coins.

To have the old two-cent coin with its again would remind us of the good old days and work no hardship on our financial system. So, let us have it—with the big figure "2" on one side, the wreath and the national shield, and everything, just as big as life.—Kansas City Times.

Fuel Value of Coal Lessened.

Careful estimates made by the director of the bureau of mines and his associates indicate that while last year's coal output of 600,000,000 tons will probably be increased to 650,000,000 tons this year, the effectiveness of this fuel will be equivalent to a production of normally prepared coal aggregating only 570,000,000 tons. The reason for this surprising discrepancy is that much of the coal is not being prepared with the usual care. It is calculated that there is 5 per cent more ash content in this year's coal than in that of previous years. In other words, approximately 600,000 carloads of ash are being added to the burden borne by the railways.

It has been shown that the inclusion of 5 per cent more ash in the coal means a reduction in efficiency in the remaining good coal of 7½ per cent. Stating the case another way, the total reduction in the coal's effectiveness is 12½ per cent.

Daylight Saving Worked Well.

In the United Kingdom during the four and a half months that daylight saving was practiced in 1916, it is claimed that the saving in gas alone conserved 260,000 tons of coal. The expenses to consumers were reduced by \$2,375,000. Electric light companies reported a reduction of about 20 per cent.

In France fuel used for illuminating purposes was 10 per cent less after the daylight saving program was adopted.

In Germany the Berlin municipal gas works reported in May and June of 1916 a decrease of 508,500 cubic meters, in spite of the fact that 18,000 new gas meters had been installed during the previous six months.

In Self-Defense.

A negro soldier at one of the cantonments insisted that he wanted to take out the full limit of insurance, \$10,000. One of the white soldiers remonstrated with him, telling him it would be foolish to pay on so much, for he was likely to be shot in the trenches. To this the negro answered: "Huh, I reckon I knows what I've done. I've done this in self-defense. You all don't s'pose that Uncle Sam is gwine to put a \$10,000 man in the first-line trenches, does yuh?"

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Commissioners' Notice.

In the matter of the estate of Thomas Buck, deceased.

We, the undersigned, having been appointed by the Hon. Matthew Bush, Judge of Probate in and for the County of Shiawassee, State of Michigan, to receive, examine and adjust all claims and demands of all persons against said estate do hereby give notice that we will meet at the office of Gustav F. Friegel in the City of Owosso in said County on Monday the 6th day of May A. D. 1918, and on Friday, the 10th day of May A. D. 1918, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of each of said days for the purpose of receiving and adjusting all claims against said estate and that four months from the 4th day of March A. D. 1918, are allowed to creditors to present their claims to said Commission for adjustment and allowance.

Dated the 4th day of March, A. D. 1918. GUSTAV F. FRIEDEL, FRANK R. POSTER, Commissioners.

Notice of Appearance.

State of Michigan, 45th Judicial Circuit, In Chancery.

Suit pending in the Circuit Court for the County of Shiawassee, on the 26th day of March, A. D. 1918.

Frank Zacharda, Plaintiff, vs. Mary Zacharda, Defendant.

In this cause it appearing from the affidavits on file, that the whereabouts of the defendant, Mary Zacharda, is unknown, and that her place of residence is uncertain after diligent search and inquiry.

Therefore, on motion of Neil R. Walsh, Attorney for Plaintiff, it is ORDERED, that the defendant enter her appearance in said cause on or before three months from the date of this order, and that within twenty days the plaintiff cause this order to be published in the Owosso Times, a newspaper published and circulated in said county, said publication to be continued once in each week for six weeks in succession.

JOSEPH H. COLLINS, Circuit Judge. NEIL R. WALSH, Attorney for Plaintiff. Business Address, Owosso, Mich.

Commissioners' Notice.

State of Michigan, The Probate Court for the County of Shiawassee.

In the matter of the estate of Jesse L. Gage, deceased.

We, the undersigned, having been appointed by the Hon. Matthew Bush, Judge of Probate in and for the County of Shiawassee, State of Michigan, Commissioners to receive, examine and adjust all claims and demands of all persons against said estate, do hereby give notice that we will meet at the residence of Thomas Marvin in the Township of Middlebury, in said County, on Monday, the 17th day of June, A. D. 1918, and on Friday, the 10th day of August, A. D. 1918, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of each of said days, for the purpose of receiving and adjusting all claims against said estate, and that four months from the 18th day of April A. D. 1918, are allowed to creditors to present their claims to said Commissioners for adjustment and allowance.

Dated, the 18th day of April, A. D. 1918. EDWARD C. WILSON, THOMAS MARVIN, Commissioners.

Order of Publication.

State of Michigan, The Probate Court for the County of Shiawassee.

At a session of the Probate Court for said County, held at the Probate Office, in the City of Owosso, on Monday, the 3rd day of June, in the year one thousand nine hundred and eighteen.

Present, Matthew Bush, Judge of Probate.

In the matter of the estate of Farrand B. Holman, deceased.

Paul V. Gadoia, the Administrator of said estate, having rendered a final account to this Court.

It is ordered, that the 1st day of July next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate office, be appointed for examining and allowing said account.

And it is further ordered, that a copy of this order be published three successive weeks, previous to the said day of hearing, in the Owosso Times, a newspaper printed and circulated in said County of Shiawassee.

MATTHEW BUSH, Judge of Probate.

By CLARABEL GALLOWAY, Probate Register.

Order of Publication.

State of Michigan, The Probate Court for the County of Shiawassee.

At a session of the Probate Court for said County, held at the Probate Office in the City of Owosso, on the 3rd day of June, in the year one thousand nine hundred and eighteen.

Present, Matthew Bush, Judge of Probate.

In the matter of the estate of Tiesie Melstein, deceased.

Jacob Melstein, the Administrator of said estate, having rendered a final account to this Court.

It is ordered, that the 8th day of July next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate Office, be appointed for examining and allowing said account.

And it is further ordered, that a copy of this order be published three successive weeks, previous to the said day of hearing, in the Owosso Times, a newspaper printed and circulated in said County of Shiawassee.

MATTHEW BUSH, Judge of Probate.

By CLARABEL GALLOWAY, Probate Register.

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Notice of Appearance.

STATE OF MICHIGAN—Thirty-fifth Judicial Circuit.

Suit pending in the Circuit Court for Shiawassee County, in the City of Corunna, said County, on the 13th day of May, A. D. 1918.

Adeline Channon, Corbin Miller, Plaintiffs, vs. Amos Gould, Sarah A. Hill, Milo A. Boynton, Supply Chase, Charles W. H. Potter, and their unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, personal representatives and assigns, Defendants.

In this cause on filing the Bill of Complaint herein sworn to by the agent of the Plaintiffs, setting forth the fact that after a diligent search and inquiry the whereabouts of any of the above named defendants cannot be ascertained, or whether their unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, personal representatives and assigns, are living or dead, or the names of their places of residence, and that they are necessary parties to this suit and proceeding; and that said suit is brought to quiet title to the following described lands and premises, situated in the Township of Austin, County of Shiawassee, State of Michigan, and described as the East one-half (½) of the South-west quarter (¼) of Section thirty (30) of the West one-half (½) of the South-west quarter (¼) of Section thirty (30) of Township five (5), North of Range three (3) East.

Therefore on the motion of S. Q. Pulver, attorney for the plaintiffs, it is ordered that Amos Gould, Sarah A. Hill, Milo A. Boynton, Supply Chase, Charles W. H. Potter, and their unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, personal representatives and assigns, enter their appearance in this cause within three (3) months from the date of this order, and that within twenty (20) days from the date of this order the plaintiff cause this order to be published in the Owosso Times, which is one of the newspapers of said County of Shiawassee, said publication to be continued once in each week for six (6) weeks in succession.

JOSEPH H. COLLINS, Circuit Judge. Seth Q. Pulver, Attorney for Plaintiff. Business Address: Owosso, Mich.

CHANCERY ORDER

STATE OF MICHIGAN—Suit pending in the Circuit Court for the County of Shiawassee.

In Chancery

George E. Heagle, Plaintiff, vs. Frederick T. Sibley, Frederick B. Sibley, Bezelial (Bezialia) W. Farnum, Charles G. Brewster, Samuel C. Wilcox, James C. Smith, Jr. Edward P. Darling, Frederick M. Hopkins, Marie Louise Sibley, John L. Whiting, and William Darling, and their any of their unknown heirs, devisees, legatees and assigns, and any person entitled to claim any rights in the real estate hereinafter described under and by virtue of any titles that the above named persons had to said lands or otherwise.

In this cause it appearing from the sworn Bill of Complaint on file that the above named parties are proper and necessary to the above entitled cause, and that it is not known to the plaintiff after diligent search and inquiry whether they are living or dead or where they reside if living, or if dead whether they or any of them have personal representatives or heirs living, or where any of them reside, or what their names may be, or whether said title, interest, claims, liens or possible right has been disposed of by Will, and that therefore under the Statutes of Michigan, it is lawful to make said parties defendants as above styled.

Therefore, on motion of G. F. Friegel, Attorney for the plaintiff, it is Ordered that the appearance of said defendants be entered in said cause within three months after date hereof, and in case of their appearance they cause their answers to the Bill of Complaint in this cause to be filed and a copy thereof served on said plaintiff's attorney within fifteen days after the service on them of the copy of said Bill of Complaint, and that in default thereof, said Bill of Complaint be taken as confessed by said defendants.

It is further Ordered that within twenty days of the date of this Order, said plaintiff cause a copy of this Order to be published in the Owosso Times, a newspaper printed, published and circulated in said county, and that said publication be continued therein once in each week for six successive weeks.

JOSEPH H. COLLINS, Circuit Judge. G. F. Friegel, Attorney for Plaintiff. Business Address, Owosso, Mich.

NOTICE

The above suit is brought to quiet title to the following described land and premises, viz: The West half (½) of the Northwest quarter (¼) of the West half (½) of the East half (½) of Section Eight (8), Town Seven (7) North, Range Three (3) East, in the Township of Caledonia, Shiawassee County, Michigan.

G. F. FRIEDEL, Attorney for Plaintiff. Business Address: Owosso, Mich.

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Order of Publication.

State of Michigan, The Probate Court for the County of Shiawassee.

At a session of the Probate Court for the County of Shiawassee, held at the Probate Office in the City of Corunna, in said County, on the 13th day of May, in the year one thousand nine hundred and eighteen.

Present, Matthew Bush, Judge of Probate. In the matter of the estate of Jacob R. Good, deceased.

On reading and filing the petition of Charles H. Good, praying that administration of said estate may be granted to Orrin T. Jennings or some other suitable person.

It